

(GPS-202) Introduction to World History

Pre-Requisites: None

Learning Objectives:

The course is aimed at gaining understanding of broad historical trends. It would familiarize the students with landmark historical events. It would help students to look at history from different vantage points and to enable the students to see connections between ideas, events and their impacts.

Learning Outcomes:

After completing the course, students should be able to:

- Explain the dynamics of change and continuity across the world history periods covered in this course, and the causes and processes involved in major changes of these dynamics
- examine major turning points in the shaping of the modern world, from the late eighteenth century to the present.
- examine the relationships between current issues and their historical, geographic, political, economics, and cultural contexts and grow to
- understand that contemporary issues exist in political, economic, social, cultural, geographic, and historical aspects.
- Perform chronological and spatial thinking, including evaluating the consequences of past events on the present and relating events to the geographical setting.

Course Contents:

Stage of world history, Impact of wars, revolutions, Age of Colonialism, Imperialism, First and Second World Wars and their aftermath, Decolonization, Outbreak of the Cold war , Détente, End of Cold War and its aftermath, Multi-polarity and rise of China and other regional powers, Emerging global balance of power: globalization, regional blocs, and shifting power balance from North America and Europe toward Asia-Pacific region.

Text Books and Software:

1. Charles W. Kegley, World Politics: Trends and Transformation (Canada: Thomson, Wadsworth, 2006)
2. Francis Pike, Empires at War: A Short History of Modern Asia Since World War II (New York: I.B. Tauris, 2010).
3. Michael J Hogan, America in the World: The Historiography of American Foreign Relations since 1941 (London: Cambridge University Press, 1995).
4. Peter Calvocoressi, World Politics since 1945-2000(Singapore: Pearson Education, 2005).
5. Richard E. Feinberg, The Intemperate Zone: The Third World Challenge to U.S. Foreign Policy (New York: W. W. Norton, 1983).